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BAUCUS PRAISES HOUSE PASSAGE OF LANDMARK KIDS' HEALTH BILL

Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act moves next to Senate

Washington, DC – Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-Mont.) tonight applauded the House of Representatives upon final passage of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007, a landmark \$35 billion agreement to renew and improve the vital kids' health program. CHIP provides health coverage to children whose parents do not qualify for Medicaid, but cannot afford private insurance. Baucus worked with colleagues in the House and Senate to craft the legislation, which keeps coverage for all 6.6 million children in CHIP and which will reach millions more low-income, uninsured American children for health coverage in the next five years.

From Chairman Baucus:

"The House has done the right thing by America's kids, by passing this landmark agreement to renew the Children's Health Insurance Program. Millions of low-income, uninsured American children are now one step closer to the health coverage and care that they so desperately need. I fully expect that my Senate colleagues of both parties will stand up for kids this week by supporting a real renewal and improvement of the Children's Health Insurance Program as well. Alternate proposals that would cause children to lose their health care are simply unacceptable. It is my hope that the President will soften his heart toward America's children, and sign this bipartisan children's health bill into law."

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